A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the redevelopment of brownfields; amending ss. 199.1055, 220.1845, and 376.30781, F.S.; increasing the amount and percentage of the credit that may be applied against the intangible personal property tax and the corporate income tax for the cost of voluntary cleanup of a contaminated site; increasing the amount that may be received by the taxpayer as an incentive to complete the cleanup in the final year; increasing the total amount of credits that may be granted in any year; providing tax credits for voluntary cleanup activities related to solid waste disposal facilities; providing criteria for eliqible sites and activities; directing the Department of Environmental Protection to apply certain criteria, requirements, and limitations for implementation of such provisions; providing certain exceptions; amending s. 288.9015, F.S.; requiring Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market brownfields; amending s. 376.86, F.S.; increasing the percentage of loans for redevelopment projects in brownfield areas to which the state loan quarantee applies under the Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program; repealing s. 376.87, F.S., relating to the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance; repealing s. 376.875, F.S., relating to the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan Trust Fund; amending s. 14.2015, F.S.; deleting a reference to the trust fund to conform; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 199.1055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

199.1055 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit.--

- (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--
- (a) A credit in the amount of 50 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under s. 199.032, less any credit allowed by former s. 220.68 for that year:
- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$500,000 \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than

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\$500,000 \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (g).

- (c) If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the tax credit applicant, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. Five years after the date a credit is granted under this section, such credit expires and may not be used. However, if during the 5-year period the credit is transferred, in whole or in part, pursuant to paragraph (g), each transferee has 5 years after the date of transfer to use its credit.
- (d) A taxpayer that receives a credit under s. 220.1845 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.
- (e) A tax credit applicant that receives state-funded site rehabilitation pursuant to s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.
- (f) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 220.1845 is $\frac{$5}{$2}$ million annually.
- (g)1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or acquiring entity and used in the same manner with the same limitations.

- 2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.
- 3. In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.
- (h) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 25 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$500,000 \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.
- Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 220.1845, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 220.1845 Contaminated site rehabilitation tax credit. --
 - (1) AUTHORIZATION FOR TAX CREDIT; LIMITATIONS.--

- (a) A credit in the amount of 50 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is available against any tax due for a taxable year under this chapter:
- 1. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$500,000 \$250,000 per year in tax credits for each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Subject to the same conditions and limitations as provided in this section, a municipality, county, or other tax credit applicant which voluntarily rehabilitates a site may receive not more than \$500,000 \$250,000 per year in tax credits which it can subsequently transfer subject to the provisions in paragraph (h).
- (c) If the credit granted under this section is not fully used in any one year because of insufficient tax liability on the part of the corporation, the unused amount may be carried forward for a period not to exceed 5 years. The carryover credit may be used in a subsequent year when the tax imposed by this chapter

for that year exceeds the credit for which the corporation is eligible in that year under this section after applying the other credits and unused carryovers in the order provided by s. 220.02(8). Five years after the date a credit is granted under this section, such credit expires and may not be used. However, if during the 5-year period the credit is transferred, in whole or in part, pursuant to paragraph (h), each transferee has 5 years after the date of transfer to use its credit.

- (d) A taxpayer that files a consolidated return in this state as a member of an affiliated group under s. 220.131(1) may be allowed the credit on a consolidated return basis up to the amount of tax imposed upon the consolidated group.
- (e) A taxpayer that receives credit under s. 199.1055 is ineligible to receive credit under this section in a given tax year.
- (f) A tax credit applicant that receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive credit under this section for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.
- (g) The total amount of the tax credits which may be granted under this section and s. 199.1055 is $\frac{$5}{$}$ million annually.
- (h)1. Tax credits that may be available under this section to an entity eligible under s. 376.30781 may be transferred after a merger or acquisition to the surviving or acquiring entity and used in the same manner and with the same limitations.

- 2. The entity or its surviving or acquiring entity as described in subparagraph 1., may transfer any unused credit in whole or in units of no less than 25 percent of the remaining credit. The entity acquiring such credit may use it in the same manner and with the same limitation as described in this section. Such transferred credits may not be transferred again although they may succeed to a surviving or acquiring entity subject to the same conditions and limitations as described in this section.
- 3. In the event the credit provided for under this section is reduced either as a result of a determination by the Department of Environmental Protection or an examination or audit by the Department of Revenue, such tax deficiency shall be recovered from the first entity, or the surviving or acquiring entity, to have claimed such credit up to the amount of credit taken. Any subsequent deficiencies shall be assessed against any entity acquiring and claiming such credit, or in the case of multiple succeeding entities in the order of credit succession.
- (i) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites being voluntarily cleaned up and eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 25 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$500,000 \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.

Section 3. Section 376.30781, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

376.30781 Partial tax credits for rehabilitation of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in

designated brownfield areas; application process; rulemaking authority; revocation authority.--

- (1) The Legislature finds that:
- (a) To facilitate property transactions and economic growth and development, it is in the interest of the state to encourage the cleanup, at the earliest possible time, of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage the voluntary cleanup of drycleaning-solvent-contaminated sites and brownfield sites in designated brownfield areas by providing a partial tax credit for the restoration of such property in specified circumstances.
- (2)(a) A credit in the amount of 50 35 percent of the costs of voluntary cleanup activity that is integral to site rehabilitation at the following sites is allowed pursuant to ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845:
- A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site eligible for state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3);
- 2. A drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site at which cleanup is undertaken by the real property owner pursuant to s. 376.3078(11), if the real property owner is not also, and has never been, the owner or operator of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists; or
- 3. A brownfield site in a designated brownfield area under s. 376.80.
- (b) A tax credit applicant, or multiple tax credit applicants working jointly to clean up a single site, may not be granted more than \$500,000 \frac{\$250,000}{9250,000} per year in tax credits for

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each site voluntarily rehabilitated. Multiple tax credit applicants shall be granted tax credits in the same proportion as their contribution to payment of cleanup costs. Tax credits are available only for site rehabilitation conducted during the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted.

- (c) In order to encourage completion of site rehabilitation at contaminated sites that are being voluntarily cleaned up and that are eligible for a tax credit under this section, the tax credit applicant may claim an additional 25 10 percent of the total cleanup costs, not to exceed \$500,000 \$50,000, in the final year of cleanup as evidenced by the Department of Environmental Protection issuing a "No Further Action" order for that site.
- (3) The Department of Environmental Protection shall be responsible for allocating the tax credits provided for in ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, not to exceed a total of $\frac{$5}{$2}$ million in tax credits annually.
- (4) To claim the credit for site rehabilitation conducted during the current calendar year, each tax credit applicant must apply to the Department of Environmental Protection for an allocation of the \$5 \$2 million annual credit by January 15 of the following year on a form developed by the Department of Environmental Protection in cooperation with the Department of Revenue. The form shall include an affidavit from each tax credit applicant certifying that all information contained in the application, including all records of costs incurred and claimed in the tax credit application, are true and correct. If the application is submitted pursuant to subparagraph (2)(a)2., the form must include an affidavit signed by the real property owner stating that it is not, and has never been, the owner or operator

of the drycleaning facility where the contamination exists. Approval of partial tax credits must be accomplished on a first-come, first-served basis based upon the date complete applications are received by the Division of Waste Management. A tax credit applicant shall submit only one complete application per site for each calendar year's site rehabilitation costs. Incomplete placeholder applications shall not be accepted and will not secure a place in the first-come, first-served application line. To be eligible for a tax credit, the tax credit applicant must:

- (a) Have entered into a voluntary cleanup agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection for a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site or a Brownfield Site Rehabilitation Agreement, as applicable; and
- (b) Have paid all deductibles pursuant to s. 376.3078(3)(e) for eligible drycleaning-solvent-cleanup program sites.
- (5) To obtain the tax credit certificate, a tax credit applicant must annually file an application for certification, which must be received by the Division of Waste Management of the Department of Environmental Protection by January 15 of the year following the calendar year for which site rehabilitation costs are being claimed in a tax credit application. The tax credit applicant must provide all pertinent information requested on the tax credit application form, including, at a minimum, the name and address of the tax credit applicant and the address and tracking identification number of the eligible site. Along with the tax credit application form, the tax credit applicant must submit the following:

- (a) A nonrefundable review fee of \$250 made payable to the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund to cover the administrative costs associated with the department's review of the tax credit application;
- (b) Copies of contracts and documentation of contract negotiations, accounts, invoices, sales tickets, or other payment records from purchases, sales, leases, or other transactions involving actual costs incurred for that tax year related to site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79;
- Proof that the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) has been reviewed and verified by an independent certified public accountant in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Specifically, the certified public accountant must attest to the accuracy and validity of the costs incurred and paid by conducting an independent review of the data presented by the tax credit applicant. Accuracy and validity of costs incurred and paid would be determined once the level of effort was certified by an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certified public accountant's report would also attest that the costs included in the application form are not duplicated within the application. A copy of the accountant's report shall be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection with the tax credit application; and
- (d) A certification form stating that site rehabilitation activities associated with the documentation submitted pursuant to paragraph (b) have been conducted under the observation of,

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and related technical documents have been signed and sealed by, an appropriate professional registered in this state in each contributing technical discipline. The certification form shall be signed and sealed by the appropriate registered professionals stating that the costs incurred were integral, necessary, and required for site rehabilitation, as that term is defined in ss. 376.301 and 376.79.

- (6) The certified public accountant and appropriate registered professionals submitting forms as part of a tax credit application must verify such forms. Verification must be accomplished as provided in s. 92.525(1)(b) and subject to the provisions of s. 92.525(3).
- The Department of Environmental Protection shall review the tax credit application and any supplemental documentation that the tax credit applicant may submit prior to the annual application deadline in order to have the application considered complete, for the purpose of verifying that the tax credit applicant has met the qualifying criteria in subsections (2) and (4) and has submitted all required documentation listed in subsection (5). Upon verification that the tax credit applicant has met these requirements, the department shall issue a written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits (a tax credit certificate) in the amount of 50 35 percent of the total costs claimed, subject to the \$500,000 \$250,000 limitation, for the calendar year for which the tax credit application is submitted based on the report of the certified public accountant and the certifications from the appropriate registered technical professionals.

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- (8) On or before March 1, the Department of Environmental Protection shall inform each eligible tax credit applicant of the amount of its partial tax credit and provide each eligible tax credit applicant with a tax credit certificate that must be submitted with its tax return to the Department of Revenue to claim the tax credit or be transferred pursuant to s. 199.1055(1)(g) or s. 220.1845(1)(h). Credits will not result in the payment of refunds if total credits exceed the amount of tax owed.
- (9) If a tax credit applicant does not receive a tax credit allocation due to an exhaustion of the \$5 \$2 million annual tax credit authorization, such application will then be included in the same first-come, first-served order in the next year's annual tax credit allocation, if any, based on the prior year application.
- (10) The Department of Environmental Protection may adopt rules to prescribe the necessary forms required to claim tax credits under this section and to provide the administrative guidelines and procedures required to administer this section.
- or modify any written decision granting eligibility for partial tax credits under this section if it is discovered that the tax credit applicant submitted any false statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed in an attempt to receive partial tax credits under this section. The Department of Environmental Protection shall immediately notify the Department of Revenue of any revoked or modified orders affecting previously granted partial tax

credits. Additionally, the tax credit applicant must notify the Department of Revenue of any change in its tax credit claimed.

- (12) A tax credit applicant who receives state-funded site rehabilitation under s. 376.3078(3) for rehabilitation of a drycleaning-solvent-contaminated site is ineligible to receive a tax credit under s. 199.1055 or s. 220.1845 for costs incurred by the tax credit applicant in conjunction with the rehabilitation of that site during the same time period that state-administered site rehabilitation was underway.
- (13) At eligible sites listed in paragraph (2)(a), in addition to any tax credits that may be claimed for site rehabilitation as defined in s. 376.301, a tax credit applicant may also claim tax credits pursuant to the requirements of this section for voluntary cleanup activity that addresses a solid waste disposal facility, subject to the following criteria:
- (a) For purposes of this subsection, "solid waste" and "solid waste disposal facility" have the same meanings as defined in s. 403.703, but shall not include sites that merely have litter or debris scattered on the surface of the land;
- (b) The solid waste disposal facility must have ceased operation prior to 1988 and must not have been or must not currently be subject to any department solid waste permit;
- (c) Tax credits may be claimed for one or more of the following activities:
- 1. Removing all solid waste from the solid waste disposal facility and disposing of it in a permitted solid waste management facility;
- 2. Closing the solid waste disposal facility, which may include partial removal and disposal of solid waste in a

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permitted solid waste management facility, in accordance with the requirements of chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, including grading the facility to achieve appropriate side slopes, installing final cover, controlling stormwater, and providing gas management, if necessary;

- 3. Performing long-term care for the solid waste disposal facility in accordance with the requirements of chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, after the facility has been properly closed; and
- 4. Performing groundwater evaluation and assessment after removal of all solid waste or after the solid waste disposal facility has been properly closed;
- (d) If the solid waste disposal facility is closed as described in subparagraph (c)2., the redevelopment of the property containing the solid waste disposal facility shall be limited to commercial or industrial land use only and shall be subject to appropriate engineering and institutional controls, and tax credits shall be awarded only after a restrictive covenant limiting future uses of the property has been reviewed and approved by the department and properly recorded;
- (e) Costs for crushing or compacting the solid waste in place solely to make it suitable for future development shall not be eligible for tax credits pursuant to this section; and
- (f) Any activity conducted in accordance with this subsection shall not be considered site rehabilitation.
- (14) In implementing subsection (13), the department shall use the same criteria, requirements, and limitations detailed in subsections (1)-(12) of this section and ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, with the following exceptions:

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- (a) Where reference is made to "site rehabilitation," the department shall consider whether the costs claimed are for voluntary cleanup activity that addresses a solid waste disposal facility as outlined in subsection (13);
- (b) In lieu of the certification requirements of paragraph (5)(d), a tax credit applicant seeking a tax credit pursuant to subsection (13) shall include in the tax credit application:
- 1. A certification that the applicant has determined, after consultation with local government officials and the department, that the solid waste disposal facility ceased operating prior to January 1, 1974, and is not or has never been subject to a solid waste permit;
- 2. A certification signed and sealed by an appropriate registered professional and previously approved by the department that the solid waste disposal facility has been properly closed pursuant to chapter 62-701, Florida Administrative Code, or that all solid waste was removed and properly disposed of; and
- 3. A certification signed and sealed by an appropriate registered professional that costs incurred and claimed in the tax credit application were integral, necessary, and required to conduct those activities listed in paragraph (13)(c), as applicable;
- (c) Tax credit applications in which costs are claimed pursuant to subparagraphs (13)(c)1. and 2. shall not be subject to the calendar-year limitation and January 15 annual application deadline, but the department shall accept a one-time application filed after the tax credit applicant has completed all requirements listed in subsection (13) and this subsection;

- (d) Notwithstanding the tax credit percentage established in subsections (2) and (7) and ss. 199.1055 and 220.1845, the tax credit for activities conducted pursuant to subparagraphs (13)(c)2.-4. relating to closure of a solid waste disposal facility shall be limited to 25 percent;
- (e) The additional percentage allowed by paragraph (2)(c) and ss. 199.1055(1)(h) and 220.1845(1)(i) is not applicable to tax credits claimed pursuant to subsection (13); and
- (f) The department shall have 60 days after the date of receipt of any application claiming tax credits pursuant to subsection (13) to process the application and grant or deny the claimed tax credits.
- Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 288.9015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 288.9015 Enterprise Florida, Inc.; purpose; duties .--
- (2) It shall be the responsibility of Enterprise Florida, Inc., to aggressively market Florida's rural communities, distressed urban communities, brownfields, and enterprise zones as locations for potential new investment, to aggressively assist in the retention and expansion of existing businesses in these communities, and to aggressively assist these communities in the identification and development of new economic development opportunities for job creation, fully marketing state incentive programs such as the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program under s. 288.106 and the Quick Action Closing Fund under s. 288.1088 in economically distressed areas.
- Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 376.86, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 376.86 Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program. --

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

(1)The Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Council is created to review and approve or deny by a majority vote of its membership, the situations and circumstances for participation in partnerships by agreements with local governments, financial institutions, and others associated with the redevelopment of brownfield areas pursuant to the Brownfields Redevelopment Act for a limited state quaranty of up to 5 years of loan quarantees or loan loss reserves issued pursuant to law. The limited state loan quaranty applies only to 25 10 percent of the primary lenders loans for redevelopment projects in brownfield areas. A limited state quaranty of private loans or a loan loss reserve is authorized for lenders licensed to operate in the state upon a determination by the council that such an arrangement would be in the public interest and the likelihood of the success of the loan is great.

Section 6. <u>Sections 376.87 and 376.875, Florida Statutes,</u> are repealed.

Section 7. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 14.2015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14.2015 Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development; creation; powers and duties.--

(2) The purpose of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development is to assist the Governor in working with the Legislature, state agencies, business leaders, and economic development professionals to formulate and implement coherent and consistent policies and strategies designed to provide economic opportunities for all Floridians. To accomplish such purposes, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall:

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515 (f)1. Administer the Florida Enterprise Zone Act under ss. 290.001-290.016, the community contribution tax credit program 516 under ss. 220.183 and 624.5105, the tax refund program for 517 518 qualified target industry businesses under s. 288.106, the taxrefund program for qualified defense contractors under s. 519 520 288.1045, contracts for transportation projects under s. 288.063, 521 the sports franchise facility program under s. 288.1162, the professional golf hall of fame facility program under s. 522 523 288.1168, the expedited permitting process under s. 403.973, the Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund under s. 288.065, 524 525 the Regional Rural Development Grants Program under s. 288.018, 526 the Certified Capital Company Act under s. 288.99, the Florida 527 State Rural Development Council, the Rural Economic Development 528 Initiative, and other programs that are specifically assigned to 529 the office by law, by the appropriations process, or by the 530 Governor. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the office 531 may expend interest earned from the investment of program funds 532 deposited in the Grants and Donations Trust Fund and the Brownfield Property Ownership Clearance Assistance Revolving Loan 533 534 Trust Fund to contract for the administration of the programs, or portions of the programs, enumerated in this paragraph or 535 assigned to the office by law, by the appropriations process, or 536 537 by the Governor. Such expenditures shall be subject to review 538 under chapter 216.

2. The office may enter into contracts in connection with the fulfillment of its duties concerning the Florida First Business Bond Pool under chapter 159, tax incentives under chapters 212 and 220, tax incentives under the Certified Capital Company Act in chapter 288, foreign offices under chapter 288,

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the Enterprise Zone program under chapter 290, the Seaport Employment Training program under chapter 311, the Florida Professional Sports Team License Plates under chapter 320, Spaceport Florida under chapter 331, Expedited Permitting under chapter 403, and in carrying out other functions that are specifically assigned to the office by law, by the appropriations process, or by the Governor.

Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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